

Application No.: 10/691981

Case No.: 55343US007

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) ▲ method for making an optical film, comprising:
coextruding a first film comprising a first surface layer detachably connected to a second layer, the first surface layer comprising a first disperse phase disposed within a first continuous phase; and
separating the first surface layer from the second layer; and
incorporating the first surface layer into an optical film, the optical film having a gain higher than a gain of the first surface layer.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first film further comprises a second surface layer comprising a second disperse phase disposed within a second continuous phase.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the second layer is disposed between the first and second surface layers.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first disperse phase and the first continuous phase are polymeric.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
incorporating the first surface layer into a multilayer construction.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the first layer is divided and incorporated into a plurality of layers of the multilayer construction.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
casting the first film against a casting surface after the coextruding step.

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8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the first surface layer contacts the casting surface during the casting step.
9. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:
orienting the first film by stretching along at least one direction.
10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the separating step is performed after the orienting step.
11. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the continuous and disperse phases of the first layer have refractive indices that differ by less than 0.05 along a first in-plane axis and by more than 0.05 along a second in-plane axis after the orienting step.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the optical film has a gain of at least about 1.5.
13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first disperse phase and the first continuous phase form a blend, and the percent by volume of the disperse phase in the blend is within the range of about 35% to about 50%, based on the total volume of the blend.
14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least some of the first disperse phase undergoes fibrillation during the coextruding step.
15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the first and second surface layers are each detachable from the second layer, and wherein the separating step includes separating the second surface layer from the second layer, the method further comprising:
assembling at least the first and second surface layers into a multilayer construction.

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16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the first and second disperse phases are polymeric.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the first surface layer forms a first surface of the first film and wherein the second surface layer forms a second surface of the first film.

18-28. (Canceled).